

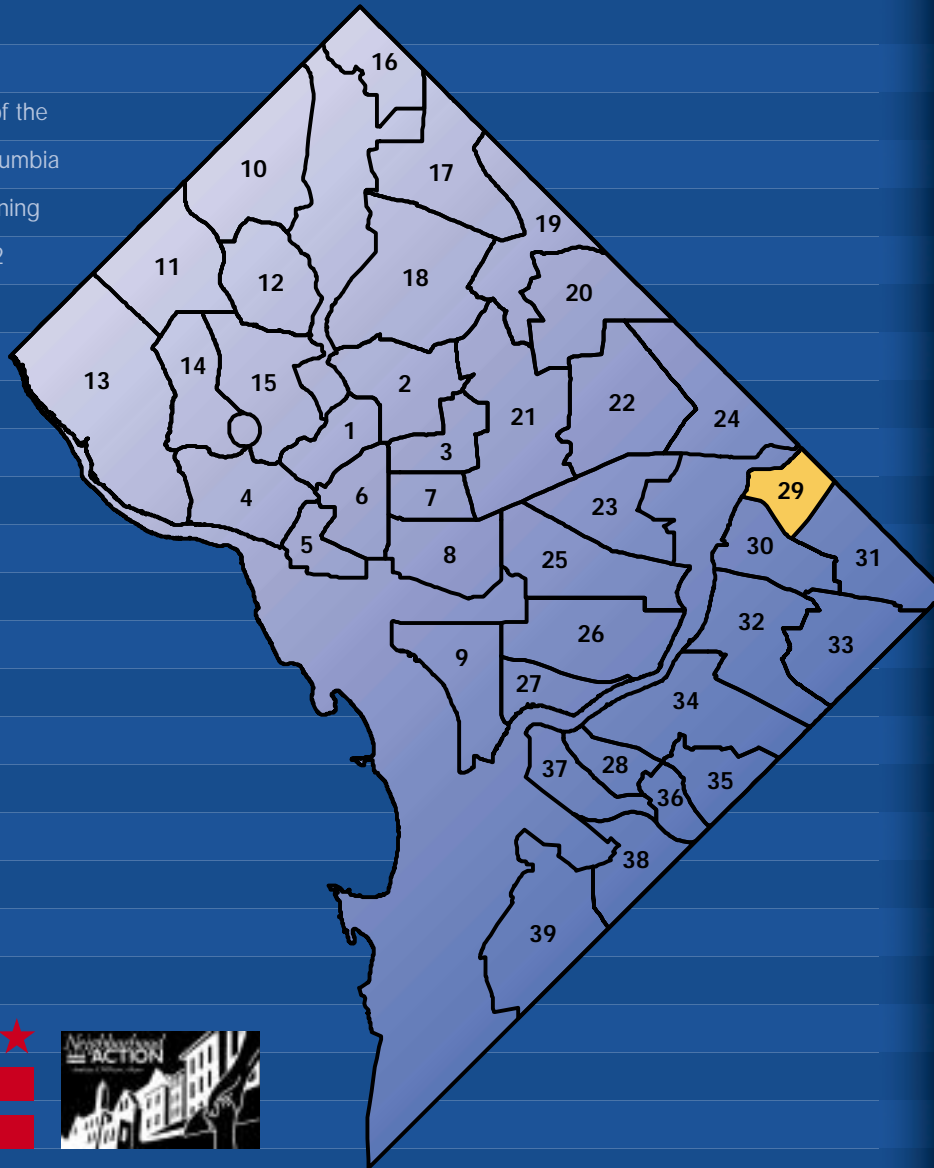
# Neighborhood Cluster

# 29

## District of Columbia Strategic Neighborhood Action Plan

### Prepared by

Government of the  
District of Columbia  
Office of Planning  
Summer 2002



Eastland Gardens  
Kenilworth



## Acknowledgments

*The following people and groups  
deserve special recognition for the  
time they dedicated to developing  
this plan for Cluster 29:*

Advisory Neighborhood Commission (ANC) 7D  
Eastland Gardens Civic Association  
Richard England Boys and Girls Club  
St. Luke's Catholic Church  
The Residents of Eastland Gardens and  
Kenilworth  
Ward 7 Neighborhood Steering Committee  
Watts Branch Community Alliance

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## Letter From the Mayor



Dear Resident,

I am very proud to present the Strategic Neighborhood Action Plan (SNAP) for your Neighborhood Cluster. I personally want to congratulate all the citizens, the citizen and civic associations, the faith community, the Advisory Neighborhood Commissioners, the businesses, and others that helped shape this plan.

I have personally reviewed these plans and am struck by the tremendous amount of work, thought, and commitment that went into their preparation. I value these SNAPs as a way to communicate directly with you, the residents and stakeholders of this marvelous city.

What began at the city-wide level with the first and second Citizen Summits in 1999 and 2001 has been expanded at the neighborhood level through the Neighborhood Planning, Neighborhood Service, and Neighborhood Outreach efforts—all part of the overall Neighborhood *Action* program. Through this triad, I have heard your concerns and priorities directly and have taken measures to respond.

This Strategic Neighborhood Action Plan is not just words on paper. Every agency in my administration has reviewed these plans to see how they might contribute to advancing the priorities and objectives you outlined here. As you know, this was a tough budget year. I instructed agencies to preserve their commitments to addressing your priorities, as they assessed how and where to trim their budgets. What's more, additional funding was provided to specifically accomplish a number of important neighborhood priorities articulated through the SNAPs across the city. This approach includes funding to install an additional 600 litter cans across the city; hire an additional Fire Inspector for every Ward; add another staff person under the Clean City Administrator, who will further the goal of neighborhood cleanliness; hire additional Historic Preservation staff to review projects in historic areas; and more. While not every priority was met, such changes signal tangible evidence of my belief that the business of government starts with the business of the people.

This SNAP document is a first of its kind. It is the first time a major city has coordinated a plan with every neighborhood in the city in a single year. It is the first product of many that will provide citizens with a record of how this government will directly respond to your priorities.

I am excited about this SNAP document and about what it signals for the future of our neighborhoods and our city. I look forward to working with you, my agencies, and other stakeholders to implement the many significant priorities you have identified here. Congratulations, and now the work begins.

Sincerely,

Anthony A. Williams  
Mayor

Dear Resident,

Enclosed is your Neighborhood Cluster's Strategic Neighborhood Action Plan (SNAP). I want to personally thank all who contributed to developing this plan and congratulate them for their hard work. Many in your neighborhood devoted considerable time identifying strategies to improve the quality of life in your neighborhood. This effort has helped us—the District government—better partner with you to make concrete improvements in our communities.

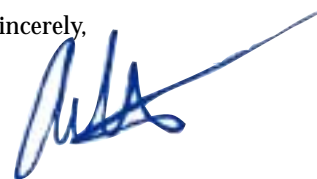
Your SNAP is a new kind of "plan for action" because it will not simply sit on a shelf. It is a document that lists key commitments by agencies and includes a timeline for implementation. It is a document whereby the commitments will be tracked by the Mayor's Office of Neighborhood *Action* to ensure that they are followed through to completion. It is an action plan and a foundation of our city's budget.

With the same level of deep commitment in developing this plan, I urge you—neighborhood groups, the faith community, businesses, nonprofits, Advisory Neighborhood Commissioners, and others—to help implement the remaining actions. While I know many of you have been active in your neighborhoods for years, implementing specific actions in this plan will help unite government and citizen efforts through its goal of addressing specific priorities identified by your neighbors.

Our work with you in your neighborhoods has just begun! Your Neighborhood Planner will continue to work with you to help coordinate the implementation of many projects, including the replacement of the Kenilworth Avenue overpass at Nannie Helen Burroughs Avenue; the replacement of the pedestrian bridge at Kenilworth Terrace; the upgrades to several sidewalks, curbs, and gutters; and the paving of selected streets throughout the neighborhoods.

I look forward to our continued work with you in your Neighborhood Cluster. Thank you and congratulations once again for all your hard work and dedication in developing this SNAP.

Sincerely,



Andrew A. Altman  
Director, Office of Planning

## Letter From the Director





## Neighborhood Action

Three years ago, Mayor Williams's administration developed a new framework for how the District government would work together with citizens and other partners to make good decisions and to improve our city. This framework was the start of *Neighborhood Action*. The mission of *Neighborhood Action* is to empower citizens to improve their communities by mobilizing and coordinating the resources of government, businesses, nonprofits, the faith community, neighborhood leaders, and the citizens themselves. *Neighborhood Action* has held four Citizen Summits: one in November 1999, a follow-up in January 2000, one in October 2001, and another in December 2001. There were also two Youth Summits to hear from our younger residents. At those public forums, citizens shared their priorities for the city, which helped redefine our District government's priorities at the city-wide level.

It was also realized, however, that there was much work to be done at the neighborhood level. As part of

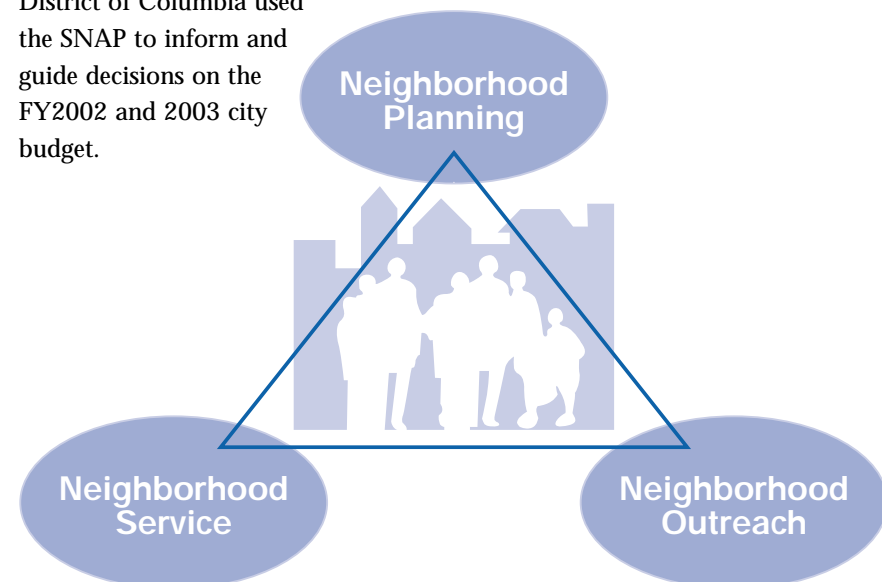
*Neighborhood Action*, the *Neighborhood Action Triangle* was created—three neighborhood initiatives aimed to identify and then solve neighborhood-specific issues. They are the *Neighborhood Service Initiative*, the *Neighborhood Outreach Program*, and the *Neighborhood Planning Initiative*. **Neighborhood Service** addresses recurring service delivery problems that require the coordinated involvement of more than one agency. **Neighborhood Outreach** holds public meetings, town halls, “coffee with the Mayor,” and other meetings to ensure that this administration stays connected to neighborhood issues. **Neighborhood Planning** has been working with citizens to identify top priority issues and to develop Strategic Neighborhood Action Plans (SNAPs) for each of the 39 Neighborhood Clusters in the city.

## Strategic Neighborhood Action Plan

This document is the SNAP for your Neighborhood Cluster. Citizens, citizen groups, businesses, the faith community, Advisory Neighborhood Commissioners, and others helped

develop this plan with the *Neighborhood Planning Initiative* located in the DC Office of Planning (OP).

The SNAP is part of *Neighborhood Action*, which is Mayor Williams's initiative to reengage citizens in the governance of their city and to establish a vision, priorities, and action for your Neighborhood Cluster. For the first time in the District, the SNAP provides residents a process to articulate and begin addressing many of the neighborhoods' most pressing challenges. The government of the District of Columbia used the SNAP to inform and guide decisions on the FY2002 and 2003 city budget.



# Introduction

# 1



Unlike the long-range goals of the Comprehensive Plan, the SNAP identifies near-term goals for a 2-year period. Through a series of community workshops and meetings, community stakeholders identified the priority areas of the Cluster 29 SNAP. The priorities and the actions recommended to address them reinforce several community concerns identified in the Ward 7 plan, such as improving the Watts Branch; improving the range of housing and refurbishing public housing in Eastland Gardens and Kenilworth; and upgrading streets. Progress on each action committed to by a District agency will be tracked through annual status reports by the Office of Neighborhood Action.

Although the SNAP is an independent planning document not tied to the Comprehensive Plan, it could inform residents about how the Comprehensive Plan is updated in the future. Currently, the Mayor and Council are appointing a Comprehensive Planning Task Force representing a broad cross-section of stakeholders to work

with the Office of Planning as it undertakes a review of the current plan and planning process.

### The Comprehensive Plan

Throughout the SNAP process, residents asked, “How do Strategic Neighborhood Action Plans relate to the Comprehensive Plan?” While both documents outline a vision for neighborhoods and include concrete and identifiable goals for your community, there are differences in how they are used by District agencies and what the immediacy is of their effect on your neighborhood.

The *Comprehensive Plan for the National Capital* is a long-range (20 years) general policy document that provides overall guidance for the future planning and development of Washington, DC. District agencies use this document as a guide to ensure that their actions reinforce the long-term goals of the city. The Comprehensive Plan was first proposed by the Mayor and adopted by the Council in 1984 and 1985, respectively. Amendments to the plan are proposed by the Mayor and approved by

the Council every 4 years. The plan has been amended in 1989, 1994, and 1998. The plan includes both local and Federal elements and is the only planning document mandated by the Home Rule Act. There are 10 local elements, which together are usually referred to as the “District of Columbia Comprehensive Plan”: General Provisions, Economic Development, Housing, Environmental Protection, Transportation, Public Facilities, Urban Design, Downtown Plan, Human Services, and Land Use.

The Ward 7 plan is one part of the goals for the Comprehensive Plan. It establishes a vision for Ward 7 over 5 years (1999–2004) and has 12 areas of planning focus, such as retaining the general housing stock, expanding the District’s tax base, and preserving and enhancing an appropriate range and density of land uses.



## A Message From Your Neighborhood Planner

As your Neighborhood Planner, my job has been to guide residents and stakeholders of Cluster 29 through the neighborhood planning process. The goal of this process was to facilitate a citizen-driven effort to identify neighborhood priorities that would help guide District agencies, non-profits, and others to improve the quality of life in your neighborhood. Together, we have produced the first Strategic Neighborhood Action Plan for Cluster 29. This effort has truly been a monumental achievement!

At times, the task has not been easy. Historically, residents in areas of this Cluster have not received the level of attention they felt they deserved. There were those of you who did not want to attend another meeting—but came anyway. There were those of you who did not believe that this process would bring about real change—but came anyway. There are those of you who have worked to

create a better neighborhood with little government assistance and did not believe that the time had finally come when your government would assist you as a willing partner. Although we have a long way to go, this document is proof that your government has heard you and is changing to better serve you, as well as providing a tool for you to hold us accountable.

Many of you, both long-time and new residents, have taken the initiative to create change, not waiting for government to try to fix a problem. This effort has been the case in the SNAP process. You have not waited for this document to be published before taking on tough issues. For example, residents have partnered with the Parks and People Foundation to establish the Watts Branch Community Alliance to work on the cleanup and to sustain improvement to the Watts Branch Park.

The city recognizes the tremendous commitment and dedication of those who participated in this planning

process. They were active throughout the effort—reviewing and fine-tuning many elements of the draft SNAP plan. The city looks forward to continuing to work with you and your community to implement the actions outlined in this plan and to achieving the vision for livable, equitable, and vibrant neighborhoods throughout the District of Columbia.

To better understand what makes your Neighborhood Cluster special, please read the following sections that describe both the positive and negative conditions found in your communities, including physical characteristics, demographics, and recent activity in your neighborhood.

### Howard Ways<sup>1</sup>

*Neighborhood Planner, Cluster 29*

1. This Cluster will have a new Neighborhood Planner. For more information, contact the Office of Planning at 202-442-7600.

## State of the Cluster

# 2

Cluster 29: Eastland Gardens, Kenilworth



### Cluster 29 Neighborhoods

This document is the first SNAP developed for Neighborhood Cluster 29. Your Neighborhood Cluster is shown on the map and includes the following neighborhoods:

- Eastland Gardens
- Kenilworth

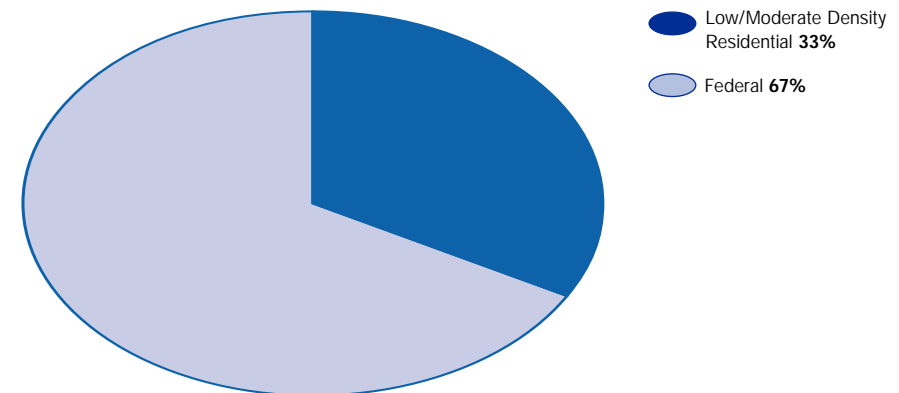
These neighborhoods developed this SNAP with the help of your Neighborhood Planner, Howard Ways.

### Physical Characteristics and Assets

Attractive, well-maintained, single-family, detached houses define the Eastland Gardens neighborhood. The northern part of the Cluster is largely federally owned and includes the Kenilworth-Parkside public housing development, the Kenilworth Recreation Center, the federally operated Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens and Kenilworth Park. A breakout of the types and corresponding percentages of land uses for this Cluster is shown on the pie chart to the right.

The lack of significant retail and commercial development is relieved by the relative ease to reach other commercial areas north and south via Kenilworth Avenue and Interstate 295.

Land Uses in Cluster 29



Source: Zoning Data contained in the Central DC GIS Database maintained by DC Office of the Chief Technology Officer, as of April 2002

Entrance to Eastland Gardens



Aquatic Gardens



Key assets and features of Cluster 29 include the following:

- *Sound housing stock and an improving real estate market in Eastland Gardens.*
- *Immediate access with several connections to Kenilworth Park, which offers a wide variety of recreational opportunities.*
- *Easy access to Kenilworth Avenue and Interstate 295.*
- *Kenilworth Recreation Center, which provides recreational and community programs.*
- *The Aquatic Gardens, which is a significant attraction that draws thousands of visitors each year.*

Kenilworth Parkside Recreation Center



## Demographics

Cluster 29 has approximately 2,343 residents, representing about 1% of the District's population. African Americans make up the majority of residents in this Cluster, constituting 98% of its population. The Cluster's median household income (\$58,409) exceeds that of the city-wide median income (\$43,001). The population of the Cluster is generally younger than the rest of the city with 39% of the residents being under 18 years of age. The adjacent chart provides some basic information on your neighborhood such as age, race and ethnicity, and family income for 2000. It also shows data for 1990, which allows you to see how your Cluster has changed. To learn more about other demographics, you can obtain a copy of your Cluster 29 Databook by contacting the DC Office of Planning at 202-442-7600.

	Cluster 29: 1990	Cluster 29: 2000	City-wide: 2000
<b>Population</b>	1,399	2,343	572,059
<b>Age</b>			
Under 18 Years	22%	39%	20%
Between 18 and 65 Years	59%	50%	68%
Over 65 Years	19%	11%	12%
<b>Race and Ethnicity</b>			
African American	98%	98%	60%
White	1%	0%	31%
Hispanic <sup>1</sup>	0%	0%	8%
<b>Income</b>			
Median Household Income <sup>2</sup>	\$32,391	\$58,409 <sup>3</sup>	\$43,001 <sup>3</sup>
<b>Education</b>			
High School Graduates	68%	Data not yet available	78%
College Graduates	17%	Data not yet available	39%
<b>Housing</b>			
Occupied Housing Units	513 units	738 units	248,338 units
Percentage of Housing Units Owner-Occupied	66%	44%	41%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 1990 and 2000 data.

1. People of Hispanic origin may be of any race.

2. Median income is the income level at which half of the households earn more and half earn less. It is literally the income that is in the middle.

3. Claritas, Inc., 1998 data.

### Recent Neighborhood Activity

Most of the large-scale development in the Cluster is public-funded capital projects. This fact is typical throughout Ward 7 because most private investment is limited to small in-fill development and housing rehabilitation. Therefore, the District government will have to play a significant role in any major development project in the Cluster for the foreseeable future.

The following is a list of key Cluster 29 activities:

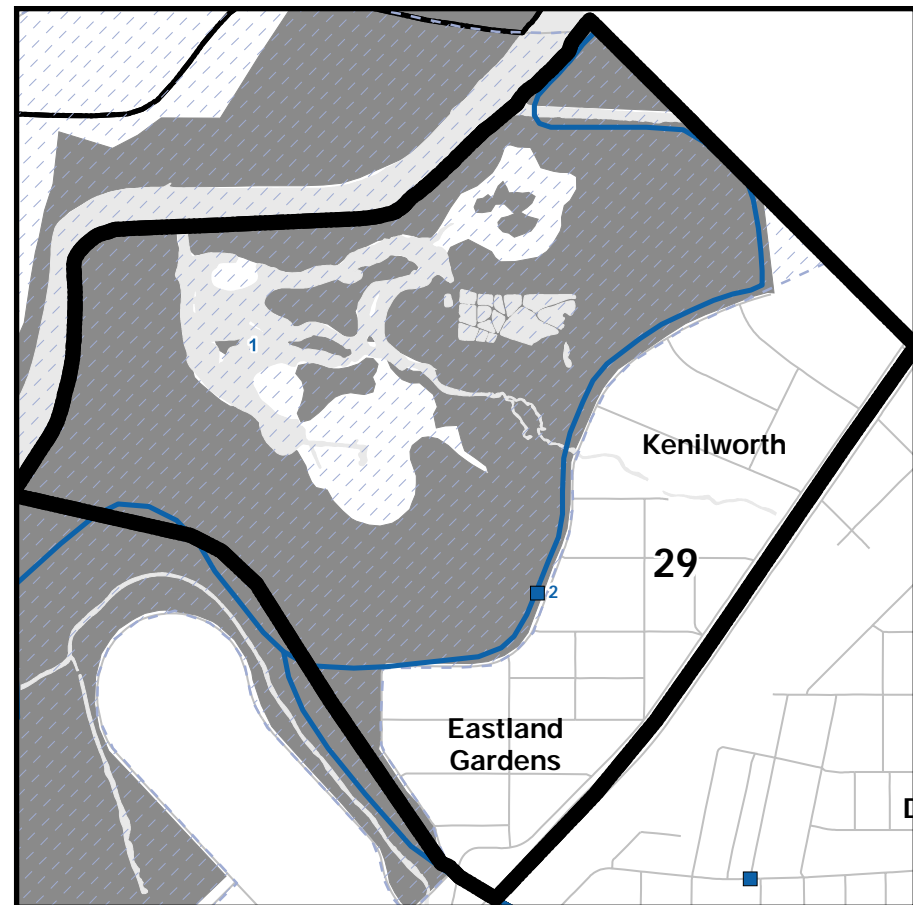
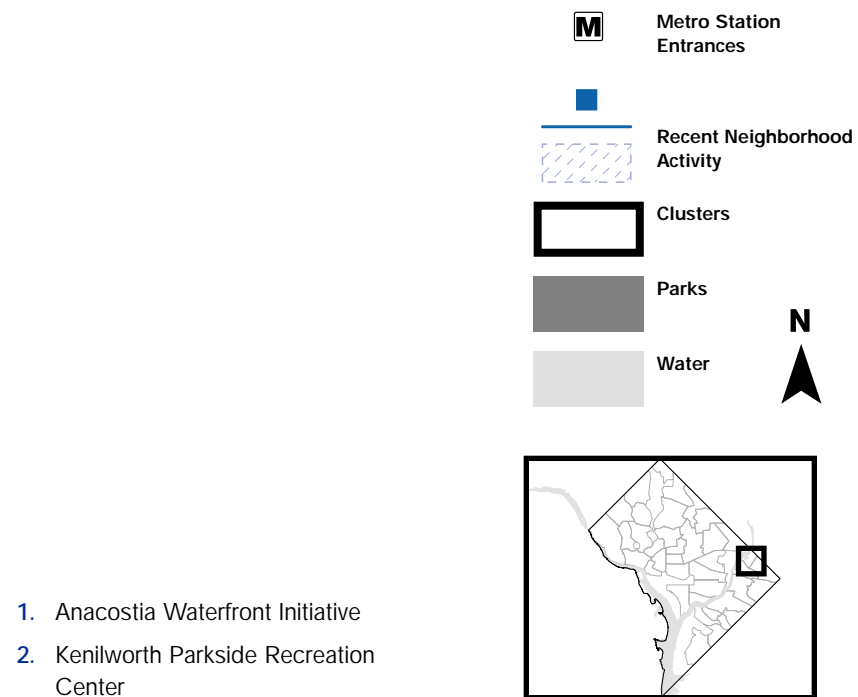
- *Completion of a citizen's street and alley survey, which identified streets and alleys for repaving and streets that need improved curbs, sidewalks, and gutters. The District Department of Transportation (DDOT) has received and will review the results of the survey.*
- *Planned renovation of the Kenilworth Parkside Recreation Center.*
- *Restoration of the Watts Branch trail to reconnect the neighborhoods to the Anacostia River. The Watts Branch Community Alliance is leading this effort along with the Parks and People Foundation and the Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR).*
- *Several community events including cleanups, picnics, and bicycling to increase awareness of and involvement in the Watts Branch restoration effort.*

The Recent Neighborhood Activity map on the next page depicts the key activities in your Cluster.

Kenilworth Parkside Public Housing



Recent Neighborhood Activity in Cluster 29







### Citizen-Driven Process

The commitment of Neighborhood *Action* is to engage citizens in the governance of their city and to align government priorities with citizens' priorities. Following the tradition of the Citizen Summit, the Neighborhood Planning Initiative has citizen engagement at the core of its mission. As such, the process for developing your SNAP was built around a four-phase, citizen-driven process: (1) Start Up, (2) Visioning and Identifying Essential Ingredients, (3) Action Planning, and (4) Validation.

The hard work began in phase two, when a Visioning and Identifying Essential Ingredients Workshop was held in each Neighborhood Cluster between January and June 2001. At this workshop, citizens were asked to create a list of essential ingredients for their Cluster. Essential ingredients are characteristics vital to making a neighborhood a place where people and families can live and thrive.

Your Cluster identified and ranked 10 essential ingredients as vital for a livable community:

1. Elimination of Abandoned Housing
2. Public Safety
3. Commercial Development
4. Youth Development
5. Transportation Infrastructure
6. Historic Preservation
7. Accountability
8. Neighborhood Services
9. Open Space
10. Neighborhood Stability

### Cluster Priorities

Participants were then asked to identify three to four priority essential ingredients that would be the focus of additional action planning. For FY2002 and FY2003, they agreed on the following priorities:

- Elimination of Abandoned Housing
- Public Safety
- Commercial Development
- Youth Development

Next, residents were invited to participate in a series of Action Planning meetings to identify specific actions for addressing their priorities. During this extensive exercise, participants were challenged to think strategically about the necessary steps and the specific locations to begin addressing the priorities. With the detailed priorities, objectives, actions, and locations, the SNAP served as a tool for District agencies in preparing their FY2003 budgets.

## Developing Your SNAP

# 3

## How We Involved You

### Phase I: Start Up

- Performed pre-planning work from July 2000 to January 2001—including meeting with community stakeholders, civic associations, and ANCs, conducting site tours to get a baseline understanding of area issues and projects and reviewing District's FY 2001-2006 budget to identify key government investments.
- Conducted informal consultations with neighborhood leaders to develop a Ward wide Steering Committee.
- Convened an initial meeting at the Boys and Girls Club in January 2001 with Ward wide stakeholders.

### Phase II: Visioning & Identifying Essential Ingredients

- Convened a Pre-Community Workshop meeting at the 6th District Police Headquarters in February 2001.
- Held a community workshop with Clusters 29, 30 and 31 in April 2001 at the Fletcher Johnson Education Center.

### Phase III: Action Planning

- Convened follow up meetings in the Summer of 2001 at the Ward Memorial Baptist Church and the IDEA Charter School.

### Phase IV: Validation

- Convened a final follow up meeting with Ward wide stakeholders at St. Luke's Catholic Church in September 2001 to review final recommendations.

### Community Outreach

- Announced Steering Committee Meetings, the Neighborhood Cluster Workshop, Action Planning Work Sessions and other meetings specific to the SNAP using a variety of outreach methods. Specifically, notices were distributed through direct mailings, and sent to area ANCs and Councilmember Chavous' office. Meetings were announced at ANC, Citizen and Civic Association meetings and through email.
- Over 150 citizens participated in the planning process.

District agencies then reviewed the neighborhood priorities as they reviewed their FY2002 budget and developed their proposed FY2003 budget. Beginning in October 2001, more than 40 agencies reviewed recommended actions and developed responses to address neighborhood priorities. Although resources are limited, agencies used neighborhood priorities as one of the inputs to help define what they should do next year, how they should be doing it, and where they should begin.

Further, when District agencies were asked to reduce their FY2003 budgets because of funding shortfalls, the Mayor and his administration emphasized that existing commitments to SNAP priorities remain untouched. Last, in a review of your SNAP and others across the city, additional funding was provided to certain agencies that needed more assistance to address neighborhood

priorities. For example, more funding was dedicated to city-wide issues such as the following:

- *Install an additional 600 litter cans across the city.*
- *Hire an additional Fire Inspector for every Ward.*
- *Hire an additional staff person who will be under the Clean City Administrator and who will further the goal of neighborhood cleanliness.*
- *Hire additional Historic Preservation staff members to review projects in historic areas.*

These and other items were included in Mayor Williams' draft FY2003 budget that was submitted to the Council of the District of Columbia to consider as it reviewed and revised the budget. Now that the Council has approved the final FY2003 budget, the commitments to your neighborhoods are firm.

### Agency Commitment Highlights

In Cluster 29, some of the key actions that concerned citizens most received the following agency commitments:

#### Upgrade Transportation Infrastructure

- *The District Department of Transportation (DDOT) will investigate installing bus shelters at stops along the access road parallel to Kenilworth Avenue.*
- *DDOT will initiate the replacement of the footbridge across Watts Branch at Kenilworth Terrace, as part of the repairs to the bridge at Kenilworth Avenue over Nannie Helen Burroughs Avenue.*

- *DDOT will publicize scheduled repairs of streets, alleys, and sidewalks through its web page. DDOT will use the citizen street survey submitted to DDOT to identify areas for site inspections and to determine future street, alley, curb and gutter capital improvements.*
- *DDOT will inspect all intersections for handicap curb cuts and will take action to install them where appropriate.*
- *DDOT will survey and review all streets near schools and Metro stations for traffic-calming devices, with installation expected in FY2003.*

#### Reduce the Number of Abandoned Autos

- *The Department of Public Works (DPW) has opened an additional impound lot, and new tow cranes are arriving, which will enable quicker removal of abandoned vehicles.*

#### Improve the Quality of Public Space and Recreation

- *The Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) will include new landscaping at Kenilworth Park as part of the overall Anacostia Waterfront Initiative.*
- *DPR will upgrade Kenilworth Parkside Recreation Center. DPW's Helping Hand program makes tools and trash bags available for community cleanups.*

- *The Office of the Clean City Coordinator (OCCC) is introducing a revamped Adopt-a-Block program. To further implement the Clean City Initiative, one additional staff person will be hired.*
- *DPW hired additional Solid Waste Education and Enforcement Program (SWEEP) inspectors in FY2002, bringing the number of inspectors in the Ward to three. This increased staffing will raise the level of solid waste education and enforcement and will help prevent illegal dumping.*
- *DPR will conduct a thorough evaluation and assessment of all recreation facilities and programs.*

#### Improve Housing Opportunities

- *The Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) will market housing programs that assist property owners to better maintain their properties and to offer incentives to increase homeownership.*
- *The Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs (DCRA) will regularly conduct housing inspections and surveys since hiring one inspector for each Neighborhood Cluster.*

Chapter 4, The Action Plan, describes in detail how District and non-District agencies are responding to the citizen priorities in FY2002, FY2003, and beyond.

## Understanding the Plan

The Cluster 29 Action Plan is where citizen-driven priorities are described in detail. The priorities specific to this Cluster include the following:

- Elimination of Abandoned Housing
- Public Safety
- Commercial Development
- Youth Development

This section describes both District commitments and key community-led actions. The data are organized by the priorities described above. Each priority is further described by objectives, which articulate specific problems or needs that must be addressed in order to accomplish the priority. For example, if a Cluster's priority is Public Safety, objectives may be to "develop strategies to reduce drug activity" and to "improve relations between police and area residents." Each objective then has a specific Action Plan that includes Proposed

Action, Responsible Agencies, Budget Commitment, and Time Frame for Implementation.

As you read through the Action Plan, you will notice that many of the recommended actions list commitments from multiple agencies. It is often the case in government that several agencies with specific expertise are required to work together to fully address any one issue. In those cases, the first agency listed is the lead agency, or agency that has primary responsibility for implementing or coordinating implementation. The additional agencies listed will play a supporting role to the lead agency. An agency commitment may range from providing background information or performing technical analysis on a specific project, to funding and managing a series of activities on a city-wide initiative.

The Action Plan also acknowledges the fact that government cannot address those priority issues alone.

In many instances, the agencies will need the help of the business and institutional community, nonprofits, civic and citizen organizations, and individual citizens to create sustainable community improvement. During the SNAP process, many of the priorities identified by your neighborhood included actions that require community or private-sector leadership and participation or both. The following Action Plan includes those community-led actions, and it begins the process of engaging residents and other organized groups to work together with government to address local issues.

The following pages provide the detailed District Agency commitments and timelines to begin addressing some of your top Cluster priorities.

*Because partner names are abbreviated in this Action Plan, please refer to Appendix B for a list with the complete name of each partner.*

## The Action Plan

# 4

## Agency Responses to Citizen Priorities

PRIORITY 1:

**Elimination of Abandoned Housing**

Eliminating abandoned housing in order to remove health and safety risks and to remove the blight that lowers property values was identified as the highest priority. Residents view abandoned housing as a “cancer that must be removed” and as a prerequisite to beginning any sustainable redevelopment effort. Communities have worked with the Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs (DCRA), but are pushing for accelerated results to create new parcels for future development.

OBJECTIVE 1:

Remove blighting influence of abandoned housing.

Act-ID#	Action	Location	Partner	Res-ID#	Response	Starting
452	Market housing programs to assist property owners to better maintain their property (creating incentives for homeownership).	All neighborhoods	DCRA	162	The Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs (DCRA) is conducting a city-wide vacant property survey.	FY2003
			DHCD	1927	Marshall Heights Community Development Organization (MHCDO) carries out this activity for the Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) in Ward 7 under a Community Based Services Program contract. MHCDO can be reached at 202-396-1200.	FY2002
			Community	161	Success of this action will depend on community leadership and individual action. Advisory Neighborhood Commissions (ANCs), citizens, community organizations, nonprofits, and others are encouraged to help implement this action.	TBD
2938	Demolish all obsolete vacant buildings.	All neighborhoods	DCRA	4511	DCRA is working with the Deputy Mayor for Planning and Economic Development (DMPED) to develop time frames and priorities for demolitions.	FY2003
2939	Develop routine inspection and maintenance schedules of abandoned lots and buildings.	All neighborhoods	DCRA	4512	DCRA will conduct monthly surveys of this area.	Ongoing
			DPW	6859	The Department of Public Works (DPW) hired additional Solid Waste Education and Enforcement Program (SWEEP) inspectors in FY2002, bringing the number of inspectors in the Ward to three. This increased staffing will enable more attention to be focused on enforcement of trash and weed abatement regulations on vacant lots. DPW will continue to work with DCRA in coordinating efforts addressing abandoned lots.	FY2002



## Agency Responses to Citizen Priorities

PRIORITY 1: **Elimination of Abandoned Housing**

OBJECTIVE 1: Remove blighting influence of abandoned housing.

Act-ID#	Action	Location	Partner	Res-ID#	Response	Starting
2940	Enforce the "Clean It or Lien It" program.	All neighborhoods	DCRA	4513	DCRA will use its Building Improvement Program in conjunction with "Clean It or Lien It" when necessary.	Ongoing
			DPW	6860	DPW hired additional SWEEP inspectors in FY2002, bringing the number of inspectors in the Ward to three. This additional staffing will increase the level of solid waste education and enforcement and will help prevent illegal dumping. SWEEP inspectors enforce the "Clean It or Lien It" regulations.	FY2002

## Agency Responses to Citizen Priorities

PRIORITY 1: **Elimination of Abandoned Housing**

OBJECTIVE 2: Determine strategies to encourage better maintenance of privately owned lots.

Act-ID#	Action	Location	Partner	Res-ID#	Response	Starting
2941	Encourage communities to Adopt-a-Lot.	All neighborhoods	DPW	4515	Tools and trash bags for community cleanups are available through DPW's Helping Hand program.	Ongoing
			OCCC	9905	Office of the Clean City Coordinator (OCCC) will introduce the Adopt-a-Block program to local ANCs. OCCC will support this initiative through the neighborhood engagement component of the Adopt-a-Block program.	FY2002
			Community	4514	Success of this action will depend on community leadership and individual action. ANCs, citizens, community organizations, nonprofits, and others are encouraged to help implement this action.	TBD
2942	Increase dollar amount of fines, and improve enforcement and collection.	All neighborhoods	OCC	4516	The Office of Corporate Counsel (OCC) will provide legal service support within DCRA's time frame.	Out Years

## Agency Responses to Citizen Priorities

PRIORITY 2:

**Transportation and Infrastructure**

Transportation and infrastructure are the second priority. Improving the quality of streets, sidewalks, alleys, curbs, and gutters were cited as major issues. Additionally, improving access to public transportation and mitigating traffic congestion were also identified as areas of concern.

OBJECTIVE 1:

Complete paving and curbing of all streets and alleys.

Act-ID#	Action	Location	Partner	Res-ID#	Response	Starting
453	Review citizens street survey submitted to DDOT to identify areas for site inspections and to determine future street, alley, curb, and gutter capital improvements. Conduct site inspections in conjunction with ANCs and civic associations.	All neighborhoods	DDOT	164	DDOT will investigate and take necessary action.	Ongoing
454	Increase capacity to tow at least 30 more cars per week.	All neighborhoods	DDOT	166	DDOT does this and will continue to do so. DDOT will investigate and take necessary action.	Ongoing
			Community	6206	Success of this action will depend on community leadership and individual action. ANCs, citizens, community organizations, nonprofits and others are encouraged to help implement this task.	TBD
2943	Add handicap cuts at all intersections.	All neighborhoods	DDOT	4517	DDOT will investigate and take appropriate action.	FY2003

## Agency Responses to Citizen Priorities

PRIORITY 2: **Transportation and Infrastructure**OBJECTIVE 2: **Calm traffic in key areas.**

Act-ID#	Action	Location	Partner	Res-ID#	Response	Starting
2944	Install traffic-calming devices near all schools and Metro stations	All neighborhoods	DDOT	4518	DDOT will review and survey current conditions. Installation is expected in FY2003.	FY2003

OBJECTIVE 3: **Improve maintenance of open space.**

Act-ID#	Action	Location	Partner	Res-ID#	Response	Starting
455	Clean up and landscape Kenilworth Park along Anacostia River.	All neighborhoods	DPR	1930	The property abutting Kenilworth Ave. (Kenilworth Park) is owned by National Park Service (NPS).	FY2002
			DDOT	167	Landscaping will be improved as a part the Anacostia Waterfront Initiative.	FY2003
2947	Develop, publish, and implement routine tree-trimming and maintenance schedule	All neighborhoods	DDOT	4521	DDOT will expedite the regularly scheduled tree-trimming program.	Ongoing

## Agency Responses to Citizen Priorities

PRIORITY 2: **Transportation and Infrastructure**OBJECTIVE 4: **Improve community safety.**

Act-ID#	Action	Location	Partner	Res-ID#	Response	Starting
2949	Install bus shelters at stops along Kenilworth Avenue in Eastland Gardens.	Eastland Gardens	DDOT	4523	DDOT will review and survey current conditions to budget and schedule the necessary installation of devices.	Out Years
2950	Replace bridge and sidewalk at Kenilworth Terrace.	Eastland Gardens	DDOT	4524	Sidewalk replacements will be done as a part of Kenilworth and Anacostia Waterfront Initiative.	Out Years

## Agency Responses to Citizen Priorities

PRIORITY 3:

**Commercial Development**

Commercial development is a major component to improving the quality of life for residents. Citizens shared the view that the area is underserved by quality retail and commercial establishments. Additionally, citizens noted that many existing commercial and retail establishments contribute to illegal dumping, and, therefore, they recommended increasing the code enforcement.

OBJECTIVE 1:

Improve the quality and selection of businesses.

Act-ID#	Action	Location	Partner	Res-ID#	Response	Starting
2952	Attract better-known grocery and drug stores.	All neighborhoods	DMPED	4526	The Deputy Mayor for Planning and Economic Development (DMPED) is working with the developer of East Capitol Dwellings HOPE VI to attract a national or regional chain supermarket.	
2953	Create financial incentives to attract and maintain quality businesses that meet the needs of residents	All neighborhoods	DMPED	4527	DMPED has budgeted \$7 million in local funds for the ReStore DC neighborhood commercial revitalization program. A multi-year package of grants and technical assistance will be awarded on a competitive basis to approximately 5 neighborhood business districts per year. Other business districts can apply on a competitive basis for matching grants for short-term, specific projects such as a market study. Funding will also be provided to support neighborhood business resource centers. Small Business Resource Centers will be established to provide technical assistance and advisory services to small businesses. They will draw on existing support mechanisms and will provide access to capital for economic growth.	FY2002
2954	Require businesses to provide training for local residents in order for them to qualify for jobs.	All neighborhoods	DOES	4528	The Department of Employment Services (DOES) works in partnership with employers seeking to fill vacant jobs to determine required skills and to prepare residents for employment through customized training. The contact for the Office of Employer Services is Susan Gilbert, 202-698-6001.	Ongoing

## Agency Responses to Citizen Priorities

PRIORITY 3: **Commercial Development**

OBJECTIVE 2: Make the commercial area visibly more attractive.

Act-ID#	Action	Location	Partner	Res-ID#	Response	Starting
2955	Add more inspectors	All neighborhoods	DCRA	4529	DCRA has hired 39 Neighborhood Stabilization Officers (NSOs). There will be one NSO for each Cluster in the city who will be responsible for inspection activities at the neighborhood level. DCRA's Regulatory Investigators are gearing up to work with the Neighborhood Service Coordinator.	Ongoing



## Agency Responses to Citizen Priorities

PRIORITY 4:

**Youth Development**

Youth development was the fourth priority. Citizens recommended scheduling better maintenance of recreational facilities and promoting the development of healthy and productive young people who can make positive contributions to their neighborhoods. To achieve those goals, specific program recommendations were developed for the Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) and the DC Public Schools (DCPS).

OBJECTIVE 1:

Improve performance of students in public schools.

Act-ID#	Action	Location	Partner	Res-ID#	Response	Starting
2957	Use the schools for 18 hour-a-day approach.	All neighborhoods	DCPS	4532	Out-of-school-time programs are currently offered at all elementary and middle/junior high schools in Ward 7.	FY2002
2958	Establish Aunt Sara and Uncle Joe programs in each school (seniors who come into schools to assist children).	All neighborhoods	DCOA	6867	Once DCPS determines the feasibility of mentor programs at schools city-wide, the DC Office of Aging (DCOA) will support this effort by recruiting seniors to mentor students. DCOA has conferred with DCPS on this action item and stands ready to assist by recruiting seniors where necessary.	
2959	Create incentives for principals to develop partnerships with high-tech companies and colleges.	All neighborhoods	DCPS	4535	There are no plans for such incentives at this time, but DCPS will take the request under advisement.	
2961	Teach history from a cultural perspective (Afrocentric curriculum).	All neighborhoods	DCPS	4537	DCPS has no response to this issue at present, but has referred the community's request to its Chief Academic Officer.	
456	Develop better links to high-tech companies, including the establishment of a vocational training program.	All neighborhoods	DCPS	168	DCPS Office of Business and Volunteer Services is seeking to establish better links between schools and such companies system-wide. DCPS's Vocation and Career Education will take this request under advisement as it looks to develop and target future partnerships with high-tech firms and technical colleges. DCPS welcomes more detailed input from the community regarding this request. Contact Janice Cannon (202-442-5076) or Johnnie Fairfax (202-442-5156) for more information.	

## Agency Responses to Citizen Priorities

PRIORITY 4: **Youth Development**OBJECTIVE 2: **Ensure adequate accessibility to quality after-school programs.**

Act-ID#	Action	Location	Partner	Res-ID#	Response	Starting
2962	Improve outreach and communication of existing programs.	All neighborhoods	DMCYF	4539	The Deputy Mayor for Children, Youth, Families, and Elders (DMCYF) is working to develop a presence on the DC government's website to publish information about child- and family-related services, events, and research. DMCYF is also working with the Department of Health and DCPS to expand home visitation services to provide families with information about basic services (education, recreation, health, etc.).	
			DCPS	4538	Out-of-school-time programs are currently offered at all elementary and middle/junior high schools in Ward 7.	FY2002
2963	Engage the faith community to provide more youth programs.	All neighborhoods	DMCYF	4541	DMCYF supports this proposal, and efforts to further engage the faith community in the provision of services is under way.	
2964	Develop "character and morals" building programs.	All neighborhoods	DMCYF	4543	DMCYF, its cluster agencies, and its nonprofit partner (The Children and Youth Investment Trust Corporation) use a youth development model, which encourages positive behaviors among youth and routes them to age-appropriate developmental activities.	
			DCPS	4542	Out-of-school-time programs are currently offered at all elementary and middle/junior high schools in Ward 7.	FY2002
2965	Improve outreach and communication of existing programs.	All neighborhoods	DPR	4544	A new Associate Director for Programs, as well as a new outreach employee, will improve our ability to communicate information about existing programs.	FY2002

### Actions With No Commitments

Even though District agencies considered all actions that this Cluster identified, a number of actions suggested by citizens through the SNAP process that did not receive a commitment. Reasons for a lack of commitment included the fiscal limitations (not enough money is currently available in the agency's budget), the particular agency with the authority to implement an action disagreed with the strategy, or the action needed more internal analysis before a commitment could be made. These actions included the following:

PRIORITY:

### Youth Development

Action	Location	Agency	Agency Response
Teach foreign language instruction starting at kindergarten.	All neighborhoods	DCPS	DCPS has no response to this issue at present but has referred the community's request to its Chief Academic Officer.

## Overview

While this Strategic Neighborhood Action Plan outlines and begins to address the key priorities identified by the neighborhoods in your Neighborhood Cluster, several other neighborhood initiatives are playing a major role in improving the quality of life in our neighborhoods. Those initiatives include the following:

### Neighborhood Service Initiative (NSI)

Neighborhood Service strives to find permanent solutions—not just quick fixes—for persistent problems in every Ward. To this end, the NSI, in partnership with residents and 13 District agencies, has identified Persistent Problem Areas (PPAs) in the community. In most cases, when the Metropolitan Police Department has an active Police Service Area Plan (PSA Plan) or a Capital Community Plan, a PPA work plan was developed. Those areas have recurring problems that need the cooperation and coordination of many

government agencies to ensure that they become clean, safe, and healthy neighborhoods. Through a Core Team approach, 13 government agency representatives come together weekly in each Ward to develop and implement work plans in an effort to mobilize, reclaim, revitalize, and sustain abatement of the problems in PPAs. *Because this initiative has been very active in your Neighborhood Cluster, the following few pages provide more detailed information.*

### Transforming Schools Initiative (T-9)

In FY2001, DCPS selected nine schools to reconstitute and transform including facilities, curriculum, and staffing. In FY2002, another set of schools will be selected, as will be in FY2003. Several existing schools will serve as a pilot for the new “neighborhood places” model of coordinated, neighborhood-based social services being implemented by the District agencies. The T-9 school in

Ward 7 is the Davis Elementary School, which is located at 4430 H Street SE. *Please contact Helen Flag at 202-442-5023 to learn more about this initiative.*

### Home Again: Renovating Our City's Abandoned Properties

This initiative will promote the development of the District's vacant and abandoned properties by gaining site control of the properties and by selling them to developers, who will renovate them into new homes. The initiative will begin by gaining site control in five neighborhoods: Columbia Heights, Ivy City/Trinidad, Near Northeast, Rosedale, and Shaw. Then it will expand throughout the city. The initiative's goal is to provide at least 30% of the homes to low-income families. *Please contact Neal Drobenare at 202-727-3899 to learn more about this initiative.*

## Other Neighborhood Initiatives

# 5

### Partnership for Problem Solving

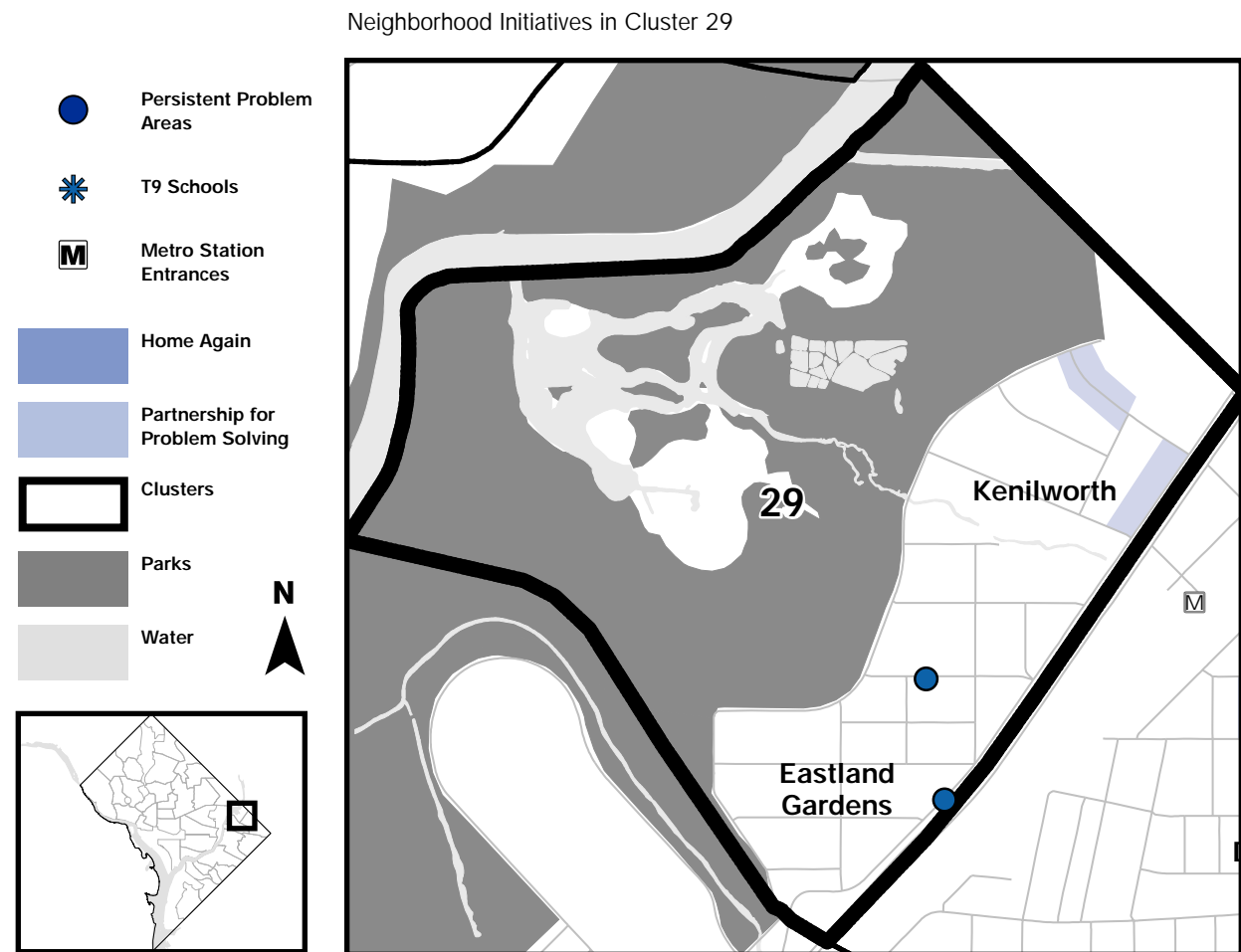
Police Lieutenants are working in partnership with the community and other stakeholders to address local public safety problems. They are developing plans specific to Police Service Areas (the geographic units that the police have implemented in the city) to facilitate the collaborative problem-solving process and to address public-safety issues. Strategies that have been developed focus on addressing offenders, victims, and locations and consist of three types of approaches: focused law enforcement, neighborhood partnership, and systemic prevention. *Please contact Ann Russell at 202-727-1585 to learn more about this initiative.*

### Transit-Oriented Development (TOD)

TOD is a land use strategy to accommodate new growth, strengthen neighborhoods, and expand choices and opportunities. TOD capitalizes on bus and rail assets to stimulate and support vibrant, compact, diverse, and accessible neighborhood centers within walking distance of transit. TOD is a strategy that allows for a rich mix of uses—residential, retail, and work places—at densities that are appropriate for the neighborhood. *Please contact Karina Ricks at 202-442-7607 to learn more about this initiative.*

In many instances, the issues addressed in the SNAPs directly link with other neighborhood initiatives, thus creating synergy in areas that will receive substantial public and private resources.

The Neighborhood Initiatives map on the following page depicts the above-mentioned initiatives that are located in your Cluster.



### Neighborhood Service Initiative

The Neighborhood Service Initiative is a partnership between 13 District agencies to identify, prioritize, and solve recurring service delivery problems called Persistent Problem Areas (PPAs). PPAs are unique because there are multiple problems in a specific area and, therefore, require multi-agency strategies to solve. There is one Neighborhood Service Coordinator (NSC) for each Ward, who coordinates the work of District agencies to solve those neighborhood problems. The NSC for Ward 7 is Rose Money.

To identify the PPAs for this Neighborhood Cluster, the NSC worked with Advisory Neighborhood Commissioners, community organizations, business owners, individual residents, and District agencies. Specific areas were identified and prioritized, and then specific work plans were developed for each PPA. Listed below is a more detailed description of each PPA.

There are two PPAs in Cluster 29:

#### Eastland Gardens

Key problems in this area include infrastructure neglect and nuisance properties. Accomplishments include the issuance of violations to properties that were out of compliance, properties that have been made clean and safe, and major efforts to improve streetscape. Future work will include increased police patrol and continued monitoring of scheduled services as more infrastructure improvements are completed.

#### Kenilworth Avenue

Key problems in this area include abandoned cars, properties that are not in compliance with DC codes, and public safety issues. Some of the accomplishments include a decrease in illegal dumping, multi-agency property inspections, and the removal of abandoned cars. Future work will include educating members of the community on their rights and responsibilities as it concerns (1) monitoring their community for abandon cars, (2) littering in the

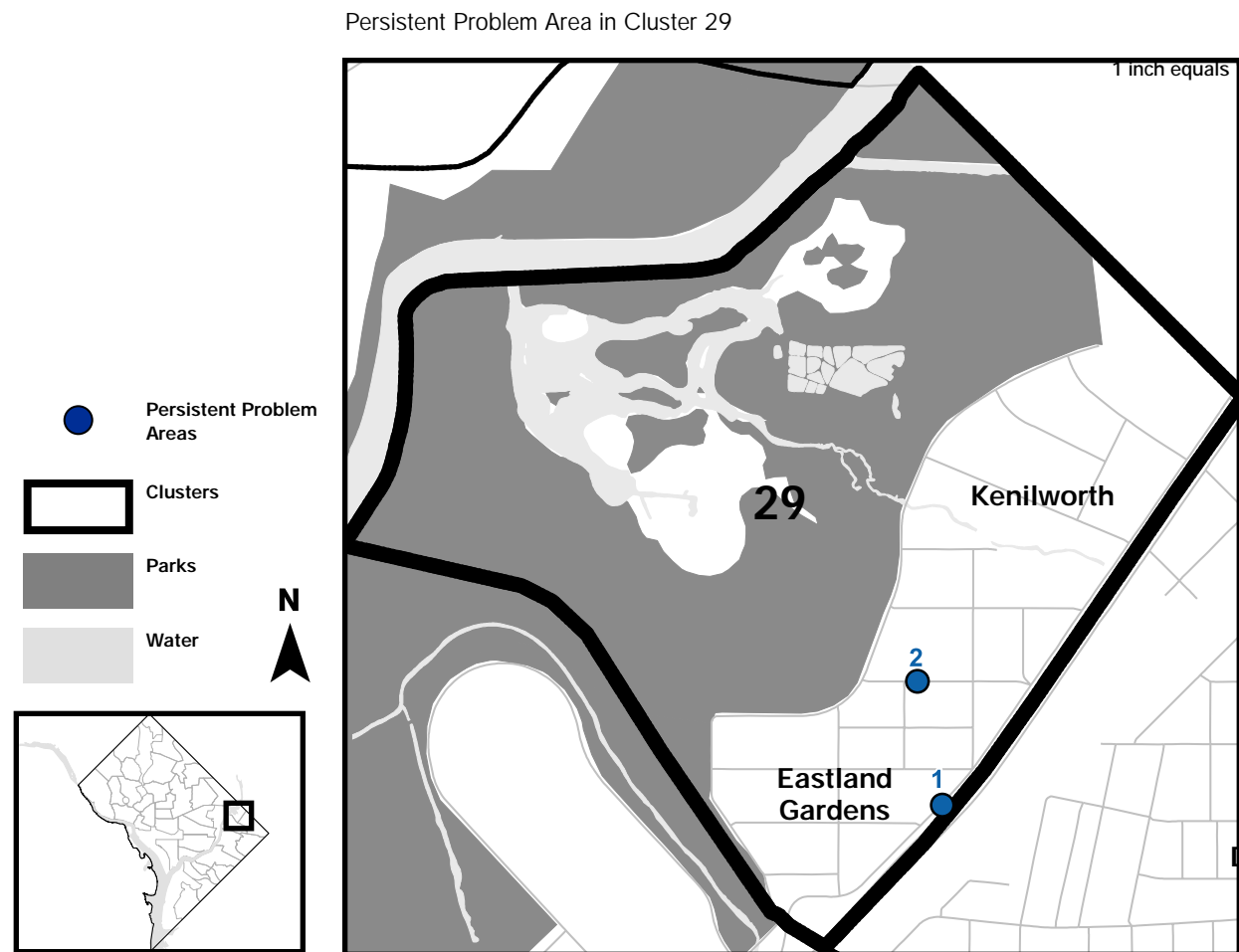
streets, (3) posting of illegal posters on trees, and having the Core Team continue to inspect and bring nuisance properties into compliance.

The Persistent Problem Areas map on the next page depicts the locations of the PPA in your Cluster.

The NSC, in partnership with District agencies and the community, will continue to work on solving these existing PPAs. Each quarter, Neighborhood Service will consider an additional PPA in the Cluster. One of the key factors in this decision is determining whether improvements made to the PPAs are being sustained. One of the variables for sustaining these areas is active community involvement, such as regular conducting cleanups, learning about city codes and regulations, and keeping an eye out on properties and reporting any illegal activity. If you have questions, or are interested in partnering with your NSC on addressing these problems, please call Rose Money at (202) 645-6201.



1. Eastland Gardens
2. Kenilworth Avenue





Your SNAP is a living document, not just a plan collecting dust on a shelf. In fact, a number of activities are currently under way to ensure that the priorities highlighted in this document are addressed. The following are examples:

#### Progress Updates to Your SNAP

The Office of Neighborhood *Action* is monitoring the status of projects with District agencies. A status update meeting will be held in each Ward twice a year to share with residents the progress of the commitments.

#### Implementation of Citizen-Driven Actions

The success of this plan depends on a strong partnership among District agencies, other agencies, businesses, community development corporations, the faith community, and you. To find community partners to help implement citizen actions, the Office of Neighborhood *Action* will be making contacts in your Cluster. You are strongly encouraged to take the initiative, to pull people or groups together, and to champion one of these actions. Please contact the Office of Neighborhood *Action* (at 202-727-2822) to learn where you might be able to help.

#### Role of Your Neighborhood Planner

During this coming year, your Neighborhood Planner will continue to work with you and the responsible agencies to help coordinate and implement projects including the replacement of the Kenilworth Avenue overpass at Nannie Helen Burroughs Avenue; the upgrades to several sidewalks, curbs, and gutters; and the paving of selected streets throughout the neighborhoods.

What Happens  
Now

6



The Strategic Neighborhood Action Plans were built heavily on past and present plans and documents that have been developed by your neighborhood and the city. For your reference, we have listed a number of relevant plans and documents for your area. Many of these plans are accessible on the Neighborhood *Action* website at <[www.neighborhoodaction.dc.gov](http://www.neighborhoodaction.dc.gov)> or at your local library.

## Reference Materials

Plan:	Date Completed:	Plan Development Led by:
Ward 7 Plan	1998	DC Government, DC Office of Planning
City-wide Comprehensive Plan	1998	DC Government, DC Office of Planning
Cluster 29 Databook	Winter 2001	DC Government, DC Office of Planning
Cluster 29 Visioning Workshop Summary Report	summer 2001	DC Government, DC Office of Planning
Cluster 29 FY2003 Citizen Budget Guides and Worksheets	March 18, 2002	DC Government

## Action Plan Partner Abbreviations

ABRA	Alcoholic Beverage Regulation Administration	DMCYF	Deputy Mayor for Children, Youth, Families, and Elders	NSO	Neighborhood Stabilization Officer
CAH	Commission on Arts and Humanities	DMH	Department of Mental Health	NTHP	National Trust for Historic Preservation
CBO	Community-Based Organization	DMPED	Deputy Mayor for Planning and Economic Development	OCA	Office of the City Administrator
CDC	Community Development Corporation	DMPSJ	Deputy Mayor for Public Safety and Justice	OCC	Office of Corporation Counsel
CFSA	Child and Family Services Administration	DMV	Department of Motor Vehicles	OSCC	Office of the Clean City Coordinator
DBFI	Department of Banking and Financial Institutions	DMO	Deputy Mayor of Operations	OCFO	Office of the Chief Financial Officer
DCFD	DC Fire Department	DOC	Department of Corrections	OCP	Office of Contracting and Procurement
DCHA	DC Housing Administration	DOES	Department of Employment Services	OCTO	Office of the Chief Technology Officer
DCHFA	DC Housing Finance Authority	DOH	Department of Health	OLBD	Office of Local Business Development
DCMC	DC Marketing Center	DPR	Department of Parks and Recreation	OP	Office of Planning
DCOA	DC Office of Aging	DPW	Department of Public Works	OPM	Office of Property Management
DCOP	DC Office of Personnel	EMA	Emergency Management Agency	OTR	Office of Tax and Revenue
DCPL	DC Public Libraries	EOM	Executive Office of the Mayor	OZ	Office of Zoning
DCPS	DC Public Schools	FEMS	Fire and Emergency Medical Services	PSA	Police Service Area
DCRA	Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs	FHA	Federal Housing Administration	TCC	Taxi Cab Commission
DDOT	District Department of Transportation	IGO	Inspector General's Office	UDC	University of the District of Columbia
DHCD	Department of Housing and Community Development	MPD	Metropolitan Police Department	WASA	DC Water and Sewer Authority
DHS	Department of Human Services	NCRC	National Capital Revitalization Corporation	WCCA	Washington Convention Center Authority
DISR	Department of Insurance and Securities Regulation	NPS	National Park Service	WMATA	Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority
		NSC	Neighborhood Service Coordinator	ZAC	Zoning Advisory Committee
		NSI	Neighborhood Service Initiative	ZC	Zoning Commission

# Your District Representatives

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**John Koskinen**  
City Administrator

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**Sandra Allen**, Ward 8

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**David Catania**, At-Large

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